Completing FSIS Form 9060-5 Q&As

1. What is the difference between the "Product Exported From" block and the "Exported By" block of FSIS Form 9060-5?

The "Product Exported From" block must always show the establishment where product is reinspected and stamped for export. The "Exported By" block is intended to identify the exporter, this may be the owner of the product being exported or the company handling the export.

2. Does the "Country of Destination" always have to be a country (i.e. could a "Free Trade Zone" or can regions within a country be entered)?

No, only the final country of destination can be entered in this block. "Free Trade Zones" and regions of countries are inappropriate. If the product is transiting another country the end receiving country should still be entered in this block. The only approved exception is product shipped to "PRC via Hong Kong".

3. Does the "Consigned To" entry always have to be a person or company within the "Country Of Destination?"

Yes, always. The consignee is the person or company the product is delivered to in the receiving country. Receiving country government officials expect that person or company to be located within their country for tracability reasons.

4. Does the "Consigned To" entry always have to be a complete name and address?

Yes, the "Consigned To" entry should be a complete name and address as is required by the design of FSIS 9060-5 unless there are obvious reasons why a shortened entry provides adequate tracability. At the very minimum, the "Consigned To" entry should be a name and city, if adequate for the situation.

5. What will be the consequences if discrepancies are found in either the "Total Marked Net Weight" or the "Total Containers" upon arrival of the consignment in the foreign country?

The total net weight and total containers entered on FSIS Form 9060-5 is expected to match the quantities shipped. Any discrepancy could result in detained product, especially if more product arrives at the port of entry than is shown on the certificate.

6. What is expected in the "Product As Labeled" block?

The product name as it appears on the label of the "immediate container(s)" should be entered in the "Product as Labeled" block. Any exceptions to the specific country requirements are found in the FSIS Export Library.

7. Is it permissible to categorize similar products in the "Product as Labeled" block, for example, individual products labeled "Sliced Ham," "Sliced Luncheon Meat," and "Sliced Bologna" as "Sliced Cold Cuts, or Sliced Sandwich Meats?"

No, each distinct product must be listed as a separate line item. Such products are obviously different, and to list them by category does not provide complete information, as was the intent of listing by label name.

8. What are "shipping marks" and are they always required?

Shipping marks can be any number or letter sequence or symbol or combination thereof placed on containers by the exporter for identification. The use of shipping marks is optional, but if entered on the certificate, the information must be accurate.

9. What does the "Est/Plant Number on Product" represent?

The "Est/Plant number on Product" is the establishment number found on the "immediate container(s)".

10. What statements are allowed in the "Remarks" section of FSIS Form 9060-5?

The only information or statements allowed in the "Remarks" section of FSIS Form 9060-5 are those statements specified as required to be entered there by the Country Requirements found in the FSIS Export Library or statements specified for "in lieu of" certificates in accordance with FSIS Directive 9000.1. No statements related to commercial issues are to be entered in the "Remarks" section of the certificate.

A statement related to public or animal health issues requested by a foreign government official or exporter cannot be placed on the certificate unless it is already in the Export Library. Such statements may be in conflict with national policy and must be verified through official government channels. Any new requirements will be published in the Export Library so they can be applied in a consistent manner. In such cases, contact the FSIS TSC Export Staff at (402) 221-7400 or 1-800-233-3935.

11. Must the inspector always check off one of the appropriate wholesomeness statements on FSIS 9060-5?

Yes, checking-off the wholesomeness statement is the actual attestation made by the signed certificate. The only product for which the check-off is not made for either statement is poultry feet destined for countries which accept poultry feet produced according to the "Hong Kong" standard (see Hong Kong requirements in "Processing Requirements"). The Hong Kong standard cannot be extended to other products such as unwashed gizzards or to other countries unless specified in the Export Library.

12. Is it required to print the Inspector's or Veterinary Medical Officer's (VMO's) name and professional degree in addition to his or her signature?

Yes, FSIS Directive 9000.1 requires that signer's names be typed or printed and for VMO's, the signer's professional degree must be provided.